

**Anchorage Advisory Committee  
11/7/2023  
William Jack Hernandez Hatchery**

I. Call to Order: 6:04PM by Martin Weiser, acting chair.

II. Roll Call

Name	Present	Excused/Unexcused
1. Kevin Taylor		X
2. Martin Weiser	X	
3. Willow Hetrick	X	
4. Joni Earp	X	
5. Scott Crowther	X	
6. Matt Moore		X
7. Nicole Schmitt	X	
8. Bryce Eckroth		X
9. Ernie Weiss		X
10. Lynette Moreno Hinze		X
11. J. R. Gates	X	
12. Joel Doner	X	
13. Ed Horton		X
14. Kneeland Taylor	X	
15. Neil Dewitt	X	

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 9

List of User Groups Present: None.

III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Fari Sylvester, Board Support, Brittany Blain-Roth, Area Manager North Gulf Coast, Anchorage, and Prince William Sound.

IV. Guests Present: Kristina Ahlstrom, Richard Persons.

V. Approval of Agenda: Neil DeWitt moved to approve the agenda as amended, Nicole Schmitt seconded, and it carried unanimously.

VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Willow Hetrick notified the AC that the minutes were sent later than planned on 11/6/2023. Martin Weiser tabled the approval of the 10/3/2023 meeting minutes until the December meeting.

VII. Reports

a. Chair's report: None.

- b. ADF&G: RC2 was distributed to the Anchorage AC and sent via email. 11/8/2023 at 6pm there will be a town hall held by Brittany Blain-Roth re: a post season summary on North Gulf Coast, Anchorage, and Prince William Sound.
  - c. Others: Wood Bison Management meetings are starting to ramp up. The next meeting is November 14-16, 2023 (travel is on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023). The next meeting is the Yukon Flats Wood bison reintroduction December 5-6, 2023. Willow Hetrick will start an email chain with the Game Subcommittee to find a rep to possibly be in person.
- VIII. Public Comment: [6:11pm] Richard Persons – east side set netter that did not get an opportunity fish last year due to low numbers of king salmon. Mr. Persons spoke to the king salmon saltwater proposals on the Lower Cook Inlet docket this coming session. There are a lot of salmon being killed in both the fresh and salt water. Urged the AC to support fair allocations between user groups. In support of restricting the number of kings harvested in the winter king fishery in Kachemak Bay.
- Kristina Ahlstrom opposes Proposal #7, specifically the spearfishing component of the proposal because the safety concerns written in the proposal are unfounded; there are no safety concerns with user groups in the Seldovia Slough.
- IX. Old Business: None.
- X. New Business: Georgeanna Heaverly has left the Anchorage AC. Neil DeWitt is the Anchorage AC's alternate. Therefore, Neil DeWitt will fulfill the remainder of Georgeanna Heaverly's term which ends 2025.
- Prepare comments on LCI Proposals: Neil DeWitt moved to accept the Fish Subcommittee unanimous votes made on November 1, 2023, Joel Doner seconded, and it carried unanimously.
- XI. Select representative(s) for board meeting: November 28 – December 1, 2023, in Homer. Future discussion will be had via email and decided via email.
- XII. Set next meeting date: December 5, 2023, at 6pm at the William Jack Hernandez Hatchery.
- XIII. Other: December 14 and 15<sup>th</sup> of December at the Marriot Hotel downtown there is a WACH Working Group meeting.

Adjourn: Neil DeWitt moved to adjourn the meeting, Nicole Schmitt seconded, and it carried unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm.

## Alaska Board of Fisheries Lower Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals

November 28-December 1, 2023 | Homer, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
1	Amend the Upper Cook Inlet Summer Salt water King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Plan (This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting)		
Table			Discussion tabled until sometime before the UCI meeting
2	Amend the <i>Upper Cook Inlet Summer Salt Water King Salmon Management Plan</i> (This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting)		
Table			Discussion tabled until sometime before the UCI meeting
3	Amend the management plans for the Upper Cook Inlet Summer and Kenai River late-run king salmon fisheries (This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting)		
Table			Discussion tabled until sometime before the UCI meeting
4	Amend the management plans for the Upper Cook Inlet Summer and Kenai River late-run king salmon fisheries (This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting)		
Table			Discussion tabled until sometime before the UCI meeting
5	Allow fishing from shore in the marine waters adjacent to Ninilchik River and Deep Creek year round		
Opposed	1	8	There is already plenty of opportunity for surf casting at Ninilchik River and Deep Creek River. In a season of conserving king salmon, it is prudent to continue to provide a sanctuary for all species.
6	Create a management plan and establish a guideline harvest level for the lower Cook Inlet summer salt water king salmon sport fishery		
Support	9	0	This ADFG proposal would build a regulatory structure and may create more opportunity. Tagging studies indicate these are not Upper CI kings
7	Prohibit snagging and spear fishing for king salmon in Seldovia Harbor and Lagoon until June 24		
Oppose	0	9	This is a terminal fishery and restrictions of any kind would limit the point of having it at all. This would prohibit spear fishing at any time of year in the Seldovia Lagoon. It is vaguely worded and the rationale offered supports closing spearfishing both before and after June 24.

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8	Prohibit snagging in Seldovia Bay		
Oppose	0	9	This Seldovia AC proposal would limit fishing opportunity while making regulations more complicated.
9	Review management options in the Cook Inlet Winter Salt Water King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Plan		
Support	9	0	This ADFG proposal gives the Board options to review – bag limit, GHL, etc. that may help control harvest in a growing winter King fishery on mostly non-local stocks.
10	Modify king salmon limits in the Cook Inlet Winter Salt Water King Salmon Sport Fishery		
Support	1	8	Subcommittee was divided on this proposal <i>as written</i> . Some appreciated the intent but noted the GHL may need to be revised. Against possession limits but support the GHL revisions.
11	Allow Alaska resident anglers to use two rods for salmon		
Oppose	0	9	Better option for this sport fishery would be to bring friends to add additional rods. Adding rods seems an attempt to be commercial fishing.
12	Modify the North Gulf Coast King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Plan		
No Action	--	--	Subcommittee is concerned about king salmon stocks but has limited expertise on this fishery.
13	Create a management plan for the Anchor River, Deep Creek, and Ninilchik River king salmon sport fisheries		
Support	9	0	This ADFG Proposal would create a plan for these fisheries, some actions proposed are already taking place. Management plan is late, but welcome. A new plan would make regulations plain and known.
14	Modify the Ninilchik River hatchery king salmon limits and season		
Support	9	0	This ADFG proposal would provide increased fishing opportunity on hatchery fish, while reducing hatchery contribution to escapement.
15	Extend the area open to hatchery king salmon on the Ninilchik River		
Oppose	2	7	This proposal would make regulations unduly complex and be an enforcement nightmare. There is also concern about the catch and release mortality of the natural fish. Some subcommittee members appreciate the intent to provide more opportunity to harvest hatchery kings. Some are not in favor of opening up more opportunity at all and think it should be left as is. The ADF&G typically culls anywhere from 300-

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			1,300 hatchery fish each year that make it past the fishery. Some support the ADF&G's comments but more discussion needs to be had to manage this fishery.
16	Expand the boundary of the Ninilchik River Youth-Only fishery		
Support	9	0	This proposal expands the youth-only fishery with no negative impact on other sport fisheries. Simplifies regulations.
17	Expand the boundary of the Ninilchik River Youth-Only fishery		
No action			No action based on action on proposal 16
18	Modify rockfish bag and possession limits		
Support	9	0	This ADFG proposal addresses the increasing rockfish harvest and pressure on stocks while aligning regulations with other areas, reducing regulation complexity.
19	Reduce rockfish limits in Cook Inlet - Resurrection Bay		
No action			No action due to action on proposal 18
20	Reduce Lower Cook Inlet rockfish sport limits		
No action			No action due to action on proposal 18
21	Reduce Lower Cook Inlet rockfish sport limits		
No action			No action due to action on proposal 18
22	Establish a sport fishing closure for rockfish in Cook Inlet from June 1 - July 31		
Oppose	0	9	Proposal has good intentions – status quo is not working for the resource, but this proposal introduces too much complexity. This concern is in line with the ADF&G comments.
23	Reduce Lower Cook Inlet lingcod sport limits		
Support	9	0	This proposal aligns regulations and is consistent with fishery participants actions. One lingcod daily is enough.
24	Remove limits for spiny dogfish in Cook Inlet waters		
Support	9	0	Spiny dogfish are a nuisance and are apparently negatively impacting other species, and most spiny dogfish are released. Some Subcommittee members suggested support for a spiny dogfish commercial fishery as an alternate solution.
25	Reduce Cook Inlet commercial and sport rockfish harvest limits		
Support	9	0	CI sport rockfish harvest is generally always below the GHF – not a problem or needs to be adjusted? Some support for addressing all

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			user groups together. Concern but hesitant to support a reduction without more info.
26	Reduce Cook Inlet commercial and sport lingcod harvest		
Support	7	2	Same notes as proposal 25. Would like more info on directed harvest vs bycatch. Those opposed believe that it is a stable population and no action necessary.
27	Open the Cook Inlet commercial sablefish season earlier		
No action			
28	Change gear group allocation in the <i>Cook Inlet Pacific Cod Management Plan</i>		
No action			
29	Prohibit use of helicopters to transport anglers to select Cook Inlet waters		
No action			
30	Add provisions to allow for subsistence harvest of herring spawn on kelp		
Support	9	0	This ADFG proposal is a reasonable approach to specify regs and add protections for kelp.
31	Extend the China Poot personal use fishery season dates		
Support	9	0	Agree with proposer, reasonable approach
32	Move the China Poot personal use dip net regulations under the Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Fishery Management Plan		
Support	9	0	Proposer Tom Vania in attendance. Brings China Poot fishery under CI fishery. Current regulations are complex, this change will help provide more needed data on the fishery.
33	Redefine the Kachemak Bay Personal Use Dip Net Fishery area		
No action			
34	Create a Kamishak Bay Purse Seine Fishery Management Plan		
No action			
35	Create a <i>Kachemak Bay Wild Fish Priority Management Plan</i>		
No Action			
36	Amend the Tutka Bay Lagoon Salmon Hatchery Management Plan		
No Action			
37	Modify legal gear in the Trail Lakes salmon hatchery management plan		
No Action			
38	Modify legal gear in Lower Cook Inlet special harvest areas		

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No Action			
39	Amend the list of waters closed to commercial fishing for salmon in Cook Inlet		
Support	9	0	This ADFG proposal clarifies closed waters for regulations.
40	Amend waters closed to commercial fishing for salmon		
No action			Due to action on proposal 39
41	Close a portion of Tutka Bay to commercial fishing for salmon		
No action			Lack of knowledge by the subcommittee on this issue.
42	Readopt the <i>Bear Lake Management Plan</i>		
No Action			Lack of knowledge by the subcommittee on this issue.
43	Amend Basic Management Plans (This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting)		
Table			Table – until sometime before the UCI meeting

Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: Willow H.  
Minutes Approved By: Marty W.  
Date: 11/15/2023